

June 6, 2025

Ms. Harmony Quiroz Chair, TSCC 808 SW Third Avenue Portland, OR 97204

Re: Comments on the PPS operating budget for 2025-26

Dear Chair Quiroz,

I am writing to submit the following comments in advance of the June 10 TSCC hearing on the PPS budget.

The PPS budget does not comply with state or federal civil rights laws

I call your attention to Volume II, pages 4-5 of the draft budget attached. These charts rank-order funding for all PPS schools on the basis of: (1) dollars per student; and (2) students per FTE.

Note the disparity between the highest and lowest-funded schools. At Rosa Parks elementary, the ratio of students to FTE is 4.4:1. At Richmond, the ratio is 14.4:1. The District also plans to allocate \$16,560 per student to Rosa Parks versus \$8,504 at Richmond.

These differences are the result of the District's "Equity Funding" policy that uses both poverty and race as factors for weighting of resources at K-8 schools. This is enumerated on page 2 of the budget (attached), which discusses how the District distributes more money to schools with high percentages of "Combined Historically Underserved" students. Those in this category have at least one of the following attributes:

- Special education eligibility
- Limited English proficiency
- Free meal eligibility by Direct Certification
- Identification as any of the following races:
 - > African-American
 - Latino
 - Native American
 - Pacific Islander
 - Multiracial, which includes any of the races listed above



While it is lawful to skew funding on the basis of poverty, limited-English skills or cognitive deficiencies, race cannot be a factor. Discrimination is prohibited in any public elementary, secondary or community college education program "where the program, service, school or activity is financed in whole or in part by moneys appropriated by the Legislative Assembly." ORS 659.852(2)

Discrimination includes any act that "unreasonably differentiates treatment, intended or unintended, or any act that is fair in form but discriminatory in operation, either of which is based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age, gender identity, or disability." ORS 659.850(1)(a)(A)

Racial discrimination is also prohibited under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and several U.S. Supreme Court decisions have upheld this in the past several years, most notably in Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard Coll. (2023). As the majority wrote in that case, "Eliminating racial discrimination means eliminating all of it."

I understand that the TSCC is neither a judicial body nor a regulatory agency, but it does have the power to withhold certification of a taxing district's budget. I urge you to do so until PPS changes its funding policy to comply with all applicable civil rights laws.

Sincerely,

John A. Charles, Jr. President & CEO

John Chars

% Proficient on State Students per FTE School General Fund, Title-I, Foundation, Grants, Including Special Education, ESL, Nutrition Services, etc. Dollars per Student School General Fund, Title-I, Foundation, Grants; excludes Special Education, ESL, Nutrition Services, etc.

ime		2023-24 English LA 13% 25% 42% 40% 51%	2021-22 Students per FTE 3.6:1 6.8:1 9.0:1 9.2:1 8.3:1 11.5:1	2022-23 Students per FTE 4.2:1 6.4:1 9.0:1 8.8:1 7.8:1	202 Stu	2024-25 Students per FTE 5.1:1 5.8:1 10.1:1 9.1:1 11.1:1 11.1:1	2025-26 Students per FTE 5.4:1 5.8:1 9.6:1 10.1:1 10.4:1 10.7:1	2021-22 \$ per Student \$27,155:1 \$21,374:1 \$8,999:1 \$9,106:1 \$10,973:1 \$8,273:1	\$ \$ \$ \$ Per 20	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ Per 20	10 10 10 10 Pe 2	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ B 2		2024-25 Free Meals by DC% 42% 9-12 (Alternative Program) CSI 56% 9-12 (Middle College Program) TSI Title I 47% 9-12 (Advanced Placement, PSU Inquiry Partnership) CSI Title I 47% 9-12 (Advanced Placement, AVID, STEM Program) TSI 36% 9-12 (Professional, Technical, Health Occupations) 36% 9-12 (Advanced Placement, Dual-Credit Courses) TSI
Cleveland	47%	65%	12.5:1	11.1:1		11.1:1	10.7:1	\$8,273:1				4:1	11 11	:1 \$10,075:1 :1 \$9,801:1
Lincoln	38%	65%	12.4:1	12.0:1		12.0:1	12.5:1	\$8,534:1					11	:1 \$9,495:1
Ida B. Wells-Barnett	22%	37%	12.0:1	11.4:1		12.1:1	11.9:1							\$9,320:1
Grant	40%	76%	12.9:1	12.3:1	1	12.7:1	12.7:1					5:1		\$8,834:1
Metro. Learning Center George	43% 11%	62% 19%	8.6:1	8.2:1 5.8:1	7.9:1	7.8:1 6.2:1	7.8:1	\$10,964:1	1 \$11,796:1 1 \$12.198:1	1 \$13,101:1 1 \$14.212:1	1 \$14,458:1 1 \$12,942:1	58:1		58:1 \$15,055:1 18% K-12 (Alternative Program) 42:1 \$13.726:1 70% 6-8 (Spanish Immersion) CSI Title I
Lane	18%	32%	6.7:1	6.0:1		6.7:1	7.5:1	\$11,559:1				596:1		\$12,998:1
Harrison Park	33%	51%	7.0:1	7.4:1		8.2:1	9.2:1					,661:1		\$12,828:1
Harriet Tubman	32%	37%	6.8:1	6.3:1	6.1:1	6.9:1	8.6:1	\$11,462:1	1 \$13,113:1	1 \$14,518:1		,823:1	\$13,823:1 \$12,496:1	\$12,496:1
Kellogg	29%	41%	9.6:1	8.1:1	8.9:1	7.8:1	9.2:1	\$8,770:1	1 \$9,658:1	1 \$9,912:1		,279:1	\$12,279:1 \$11,831:1	,279:1 \$11,831:1 46% 6-8 (Spanish Immersion) Title I
Roseway Heights	23%	32%	9.4:1	8.4:1	8.2:1	9.1:1	10.0:1	\$8,938:1	1 \$10,498:1	1 \$11,893:1		,474:1	\$11,474:1 \$11,436:1	,474:1 \$11,436:1 49% 6-8 (Spanish and Vietnamese Immersion) CSI Title I
Ockley Green	29%	40%	9.2:1	8.4:1								346:1		\$11,102:1
Grav	55%	72%	10.9:1	11.7:1	1 10.5:1	10.7:1	10.9:1	\$8.016:1	1 \$7.661:1	1 \$9.136:1	4	942:1	\$9.942:1 \$10,730:1	942:1 \$10,730:1 20% 6-8 TSI
Mt Tabor	61%	71%	12.4:1	11.3:1						10		931:1	11	:1 \$10,171:1
da Vinci	38%	57%	10.4:1	11.0:1	1 9.2:1	10.4:1	11.2:1	\$7,818:1	1 \$8,814:1	1 \$10,633:1		766:1	1	:1 \$9,905:1
Hosford	44%	54%	12.0:1	11.6:1	1 10.2:1	10.5:1	10.5:1	\$7,705:1	1 \$7,733:1	1 \$9,193:1		,029:	\$9,029:1 \$9,641:1	\$9,641:1
Sellwood	670%	2007	17 7.1.1.1	10.7.1	1 17 7.1	120.7.1	12 2.1	¢7,000.1				0,700.		5,700:1 25,302:1 22% 6-8 (Bellistelli Altidi Lealling)
West Sylvan	56%	69%	12.7:1	12.5:1					1 \$7,197:1	1 \$8,280:1		9,100:	\$9,100:1 \$8,994:	\$8,994:1
César Chávez	11%	21%	7.3:1	6.6:1	1 7.3:1	6.9:1	7.1:1	\$11,728:1	1 \$12,938:1	1 \$12,333:1		4,006:	\$14,006:1 \$14,583:	\$14,583:1
Faubion	17%	21%	7.0:1	6.3:1	1 6.1:1	5.1:1	5.1:1	\$11,487:1	1 \$12,603:1	1 \$13,010:1		12,048:	8:1	8:1 \$12,641:1
Odyssey	/4%	85%	10.8:1	10.1:1	1 8.4:1		9.8:1	T				\$10,872:	2:1	2:1 \$11,555:1
Skyline	62%	72%	9.2:1	9.1:1				5				11,143:		\$11,233:1
Access	93%	94%	10.8:1	11.0:1	1 10.6:1	11.2:1	11.6:1	\$9,711:1	1 \$8,043:1	1 \$9,865:1		10,328	\$10,328:1 \$11,163:	10,328:1 \$11,163:1 28% K-8 10,099:1 \$10,957:1 10% 1-8
Sunnyside Environmental	51%	60%	11.2:1	11.0:1	1 10.4:1	11.1:1	10.9:1	\$8,551:1	1 \$9,067:1	1 \$10,612:1	1	\$9,977:	\$9,977:1 \$10,755:	
Winterhaven	83%	82%	11.2:1	11.1:1				\$8,375:1	1 \$8,616:1	1 \$10,140:1		\$9,707:	7:1	7:1 \$10,206:1
Vernon	45%	52%	10.5:1	11.8:1				T				\$10,024:	4:1	4:1 \$10,180:1
Lauralhuret	71%	78%	17 7.1	13 0.1	1 17 3.1	17 0.1	10.7.1	\$7,778.1	1 \$77/1.1	1 \$9,000.1	4	\$0,771	1.1	\$6,7501.1 \$10,152.1 12% V 8

See Individual School Reports for more detail and context.

% Proficient on State

Students per FTE

ncluding Special Education, ESL, Nutrition Services, etc

School General Fund, Title-I, Foundation, Grants,

School General Fund, Title-I, Foundation, Grants; excludes Special Education, ESL, Nutrition Services, etc **Dollars per Student**

MLK Jr Clark Arleta Glencoe Llewellyn Rieke Chief Joseph Sabin Abernethy Beach Lent Vestal Creston Whitman Grout Woodmere Rosa Parks School Name Hayhurst Woodstock Atkinson Rose City Park Maplewood ewis Chapman cott Voodlawn ames John 3oise-Eliot/Humboldt eninsula Markham Ainsworth Stephenson Capitol Hill 3ridger Creative Science orest Park rvington suckman ridlemile 2023-24 Math 55% 40% 55% 39% 39% 28% 46% 28% English LA 2023-24 37% 29% 62% 60% 63% 62% 66% 74% 49% 63% 81% 41% 49% 45% 35% 28% 55% 41% 40% 50% 51% 41% 26% 68% 60% 58% 83% 27% 29% Students 2021-22 per FTE 11.8:1 10.4:1 10.0:1 6.0:1 11.9:1 10.9:1 11.9:1 10.8:1 11.3:1 11.0:1 9.3:1 5.4:1 9.9:1 7.9:1 6.2:1 6.2:1 6.2:1 4.9:1 5.8:1 5.6:1 5.3:1 5.0:1 9.1:1 7.9:1 7.9:1 7.0:1 Students per FTE 2022-23 10.8:1 12.0:1 11.8:1 10.3:1 9.6:1 7.9:1 10.3:1 5.9:1 5.7:1 4.6:1 5.6:1 6.0:1 6.8:1 5.7:1 6.5:1 6.2:1 5.2:1 9.3:1 Students 2023-24 per FTE 10.4:1 10.4:1 11.0:1 8.3:1 9.3:1 8.3:1 9.7:1 8.0:1 6.4:1 6.5:1 5.8:1 4.7:1 5.4:1 8.6:1 8.4:1 9.9:1 6.8:1 7.4:1 6.5:1 Students per FTE 2024-25 10.9:1 10.2:1 11.8:1 12.6:1 10.9:1 10.1:1 11.6:1 5.4:1 3.9:1 9.0:1 8.9:1 9.9:1 7.6:1 9.8:1 8.6:1 7.9:1 6.8:1 6.1:1 6.3:1 6.0:1 7.5:1 5.8:1 8.0:1 4.9:1 5.8:1 4.9:1 7.0:1 7.8:1 7.9:1 per FTE 2025-26 Students 11.5:1 10.3:1 12.4:1 10.3:1 11.6:1 12.8: 10.8:1 9.3:1 9.9: 8.6: 9.4:1 7.9:1 7.8:1 per Student per Student per Student 2021-22\$ \$14,933:1 \$16,885:1 \$18,403:1 \$18,808:1 \$14,940:1 \$13,366:1 \$13,744:1 \$11,904:1 \$13,797:1 \$14,790:1 \$10,243:1 \$11,261:1 \$12,120:1 \$12,226:1 \$12,551:1 \$13,519:1 \$10,372:1 \$11,316:1 \$12,089:1 \$12,335:1 \$13,197:1 \$12,538:1 \$10,081:1 \$9,169:1 \$9,959:1 \$9,793:1 \$8,933:1 \$9,517:1 \$9,352:1 \$8,825:1 \$7,032:1 \$7,995:1 \$7,970:1 \$7,276:1 \$8,080:1 \$8,564:1 \$8,770:1 \$9,257:1 \$7,656:1 \$8,153:1 \$8,929:1 \$9,123:1 \$9,044:1 \$9,459:1 \$8,604:1 \$8,689:1 2022-23 \$ 2023-24 \$ \$14,736:1 \$10,715:1 \$11,936:1 \$13,393:1 \$14,327:1 \$11,033:1 \$12,774:1 \$11,036:1 \$10,851:1 \$11,291:1 \$11,567:1 \$12,686:1 \$14,240:1 \$15,213:1 \$12,640:1 \$11,503:1 \$12,569:1 \$10,183:1 \$15,410:1 \$10,516:1 \$9,358:1 \$9,445:1 \$9,203:1 \$9,846:1 \$8,617:1 \$9,141:1 \$8,766:1 \$9,109:1 \$7,688:1 \$8,188:1 \$8,414:1 \$7,743:1 \$8,229:1 \$8,439:1 \$7,906:1 \$7,868:1 \$8,203:1 \$9,480:1 \$9,400:1 \$13,926:1 \$11,169:1 \$10,104:1 \$10,580:1 \$10,277:1 \$11,382:1 \$10,739:1 \$10,183:1 \$11,881:1 \$12,538:1 \$10,048:1 \$11,623:1 \$10,476:1 \$12,598:1 \$13,446:1 \$13,681:1 \$14,005:1 \$14,121:1 \$13,737:1 \$10,419:1 \$13,928:1 \$12,310:1 \$12,686:1 \$14,489:1 \$13,578:1 \$12,144:1 \$12,729:1 \$12,228:1 \$13,584:1 \$10,515:1 \$9,894:1 \$9,520:1 \$9,787:1 \$9,124:1 \$9,192:1 \$9,615:1 \$9,467:1 \$9,920:1 \$8,813:1 \$9,547:1 \$8,498:1 \$9,691:1 \$8,573:1 2024-25 \$ \$10,426:1 \$11,145:1 \$11,439:1 \$12,689:1 \$12,628:1 \$12,528:1 \$13,963:1 \$12,637:1 \$14,331:1 \$11,684:1 \$13,016:1 \$12,676:1 \$13,908:1 \$13,453:1 \$12,770:1 \$12,019:1 \$13,426:1 \$13,872:1 \$13,540:1 \$13,963:1 \$15,044:1 \$10,500:1 \$10,736:1 \$11,805:1 \$10,176:1 \$10,642:1 \$11,127:1 \$10,388:1 \$11,759:1 \$10,630:1 \$11,338:1 \$12,625:1 \$12,988:1 \$10,093:1 \$9,881:1 \$9,781:1 \$9,849:1 \$9,289:1 \$9,508:1 \$9,233:1 \$9,827:1 \$7,894:1 \$8,679:1 \$8,755:1 \$9,686:1 per Student 2025-26 \$ \$14,945:1 \$16,560:1 \$11,753:1 \$13,041:1 \$13,528:1 \$10,137:1 \$10,507:1 \$10,824:1 \$10,944:1 \$10,987:1 \$11,217:1 \$11,314:1 \$11,379:1 \$11,383:1 \$11,401:1 \$11,746:1 \$11,861:1 \$12,222:1 \$12,235:1 \$12,291:1 \$12,383:1 \$12,814:1 \$12,987:1 \$13,000:1 \$13,259:1 \$13,281:1 \$13,337:1 \$13,388:1 \$13,466:1 \$13,483:1 \$13,562:1 \$13,687:1 \$13,695:1 \$10,013:1 \$10,362:1 \$10,493:1 \$10,605:1 \$10,073:1 \$9,148:1 \$9,327:1 \$9,484:1 \$9,549:1 Free Meals by DC% 2024-25 14% K-5 9% K-5 5% K-5 31% K-5 13% K-5 21% K-5 62% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) Title I 67% K-5 (Russian Immersion) Title 47% K-5 Title I 51% K-5 (Mandarin Immersion) Title I 65% K-5 Title 62% K-5 Title 84% K-5 Title 22% K-5 (Mandarin Immersion) 5% K-5 22% K-5 22% K-5 50% K-5 TSI Title I 18% K-5 10% K-5 32% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) 49% K-5 TSI Title I 55% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) Title 52% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) Title 49% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) Title 44% K-5 Title 60% K-5 TSI Title I 35% K-5 (Arts Focus) Title I 28% K-5 64% K-5 Title I 65% K-5 TSI Title I 47% K-5 Title I 34% K-5 Title 35% K-5 Title I 17% K-5 27% K-8 14% K-5 34% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) Title I 32% K-5 (Vietnamese Immersion) 17% K-5 30% K-5 54% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) Title 33% K-5 10% K-5 (Spanish Immersion) 10% K-5 (Japanese Immersion) K-5 2025-26 School Type (Programs), ODE status, and Title-I

See Individual School Reports for more detail and context

Since the Student Investment Act (SIA) and Measure 98 are both Oregon specific investments that fund large amounts of FTE, Measure 98 are combined with SIA in the SIA/M98 row.

During and following the COVID pandemic, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) grant funds were used to support FTE in schools, which is in shown in the Other line. The last year of ESSER funding was 2023-24.

School Financial Data

The school financial data shows four years of actual financial data along with the projected budget.

Dollars per Student

The total dollars are divided by the total enrollment to show how many dollars per student are allocated to the school each year. The centrally allocated FTE are not included in the total dollars for this equation.

Demographic Data

The actual student demographic data are displayed for the current year and past four years. The demographic data displayed are some of the data points that are factored into school staffing (Combined Underserved and Free-Direct Certification).

Combined Underserved is the percentage of students who are identified as at least one of the groups considered Historically Underserved (HU). <u>Combined Historically Underserved students include</u>:

- Special Education Eligibility
- Limited English Proficiency
- Free meal eligibility by Direct Certification (see below for definition)
- Identification as any of the following races:
 - African-American
 - Latino
 - Native American
 - Pacific Islander
 - Multiracial, which includes any of the races listed above

Free-Direct Certification is a proxy measure to determine economic disadvantage. Direct Certification is based on income level or a categorical reason such as participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Migrant Ed, McKinney Vento, or foster care. Starting in 2023, Medicaid was added as another way for families to qualify for free or reduced priced meals in Oregon. Students who qualify for free meals via Medicaid are counted as Direct Certification.

Free Meal by Direct Certification is the only comparable measure of economic hardship across all schools.

The races that are not considered to be Combined Underserved are also displayed to give a complete picture of the race/ethnicity make-up of the students at the school.